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ST. SIMEON'S CHURCH
Philadelphia
Pennsylvania

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ST. SIMEON"S CHURCH, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

St. Simeon's Church is a large stone building which will seat 800 persons. The condition of the church is stated in the Church Self-Study From as being fair, and there is need for a new roof and repairs on the woodwork at an estimated cost of $12,000.00.

Attached to the church is a three-story parish house, the top floor of which is not being used, and there is a gymnasium in the basement which gets sparse use. The estimated repair costs for this building are $8,000.00.

Attached to the church is a stone rectory of 12 rooms which is in need of repairs which would cost about $3,000.00. Finally, the church owns a brick house which contains five rooms and bath and is in fair condition. This building is rented for income.

THE CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD

St. Simeon's Church is located in a section of Philadelphia that is made up of apartment houses and single-home dwellings. It should be noted that the church faces a street that is one of the shopping and business areas of Philadelphia. The area is undergoing some change, with a growing proportion of the population being Negroes and persons of Puerto Rican background.

Philadelphia is divided into tracts for the purposes of the United States Census Bureau. St. Simeon's Church is located in Census Tract 19-B. This tract together with the seven contiguous tracts, have been arbitrarily assigned as the parish area. The following table gives information concerning the total population of these tracts, the number of Episcopalians found in each tract, and the parish membership of St. Simeon's Church found in each tract:

CENSUS TRACT	TOTAL POP.	TOTAL EPIS.	% OF POP. EPIS.	TOTAL PARISH MEMB.	% EPIS. MEMB.	% PARISH MEMB.
19-B	9,250	99	1.1	32	32.3	5.6
19-A	7,938	114	1.4	11	9.6	1.9
19-D	6,631	75	1.1	3	4.0	0.5
33-J	14,153	254	1.8	28	11.2	4.8
37-B	5,088	26	0.5	22	74.6	3.7
37-F	6,842	12	0.2	6	50.0	1.0
43-E	10,887	216	2.0	157	72.7	27.5
43-F	6,257	99	1.6	3	3.0	0.5
Total	67,046	895	1.3	263	29.3	45.5

The percentage of the Episcopal population in the City of Philadelphia is 2.0%, and the diocesan ratio of Episcopalians to the general population is 3.2%. In the nation as a whole, the ratio is 1.8%. Only one of the tracts in the arbitrarily assigned parish area reaches the 2% level, and it is interesting to observe that it is from this tract that St. Simeon's Church draws the heaviest percentage of its membership.

The following table gives information concerning the changes in population between 1950 and 1960, the percentage of the population 14 years of age and under and 65 years of age and older, and the median age for men and women in the parish area:

CENSUS TRACT	POPULATION 1950	POPULATION 1960	% CHANGE	% 14 & UNDER	% 65 & OVER	MED. AGE M	MED. AGE F
19-B	10,554	9,250	-12.4	30.0	11.2	29.9	32.1
19-A	NA	7,938		28.0	10.8	30.7	31.0
19-D	NA	6,631		29.9	10.0	28.1	31.6
33-J	15,549	14,153	- 9.0	27.9	9.6	30.8	33.3
37-B	NA	5,088		26.5	14.0	33.7	35.6
37-F	NA	6,842		34.7	8.2	29.7	28.2
43-E	NA	10,887		24.0	14.6	34.5	39.4
43-F	NA	6,257		24.1	13.2	34.7	37.9
Total		67,046					

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The City of Philadelphia had a population decrease of 3.3% between 1950 and 1960. The percentage of the population 14 years of age and under was 26.5% and the percentage 65 years of age and older was 10.4%. The median age for men in the City of Philadelphia was 32.1 years and for women this median was 34.6 years. It should be pointed out that where the parish has the heaviest percentage of its total membership, the median age levels are quite high as well. However, the tract that contains the largest number of Episcopalians, 33-J, has a median age level that is below the average for the City of Philadelphia.

The following table gives information concerning the education of adults 25 years of age and older in the arbitrarily assigned parish area:

CENSUS TRACT	ED. OF ADULTS 25 YRS. OF AGE & OVER % H.S.GRAD.	% COLL. 1-3 YRS.	% COLL. GRAD.	MEDIAN ED.
19-B	11.3	1.8	1.0	8.5
19-A	7.5	1.7	2.5	8.5
19-D	10.6	1.9	1.4	8.5
33-J	10.8	1.8	0.8	8.7
37-B	12.4	2.4	2.6	8.7
37-F	15.7	2.5	0.9	8.7
43-E	12.4	3.0	0.9	8.7
43-F	11.9	2.7	1.6	8.7

In the City of Philadelphia, 20% of the adults have a high school education, 5.1% have from one to three years of college and 5.1% are college graduates. The median educational level for persons in the city is 9.6%. In none of the tracts in this arbitrarily assigned parish area is the level of education up to the Philadelphia average.

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The following table gives information on the numbers and changes in the non-white population between 1950 and 1960, the percentage of the population non-white, and the number and percentage of the Puerta Rican population in the arbitrarily assigned parish area:

CENSUS TRACT	NON-WHITE POPULATION 1950	1960	% CHANGE	% NON-WHITE	PUERTO RICAN
19-B	160	1,482	826.3	16.0	591=6.4
19-A	NA	387		4.9	195=2.5
19-D	NA	792		11.9	470=7.1
33-J	32	46	43.8	0.3	67=0.5
37-B	NA	1,800		35.4	30=0.6
37-F	NA	5,675		82.9	105=1.5
43-E	NA	206		1.9	67=0.6
43-F	NA	17		0.3	27=0.4
Total		10,405		15.5	1,552=2.3

In the City of Philadelphia, the non-white population increased by 41.2% between 1950 and 1960, and the percentage of the population non-white in 1960 was 26.7%. In the City of Philadelphia the percentage of the population of Puerto Rican origin or parentage is 0.7%. The arbitrarily assigned parish area includes tracts that have a sizeable proportion of the population of Puerto Rican origin, and it appears that the growth of the non-white population in at least four other census tracts has been dramatic.

The following table gives information concerning the percent of the population five years of age and older in 1960 which has the same residence as in 1955:

CENSUS TRACT	RESIDENCE 1960 SAME AS 1955 %
19-B	56.2
19-A	54.9
19-D	58.4
33-J	67.2
37-B	45.6
37-F	52.9
43-E	67.2
43-F	66.0

In the City of Philadelphia, the percentage of the population five years of age and older which had a stable residence for five years was 60%. Only three of the census tracts in the arbitrarily assigned parish area are equal to or exceed this pattern of stability. Interestingly enough, the census tracts that have the highest percentage of stability contained the largest number of Episcopalians and the highest percentage of the membership of St. Simeon's Church.

The Church Self-Study Form reveals that there are a total of 37 grade schools, one public high school, and two parochial grade schools in the arbitrarily assigned parish area. In addition, Temple University and Dropsy College are both in the parish neighborhood. The number of public grade schools for a parish neighborhood is rather sizeable, and it is presumed that the church's view of itself and its neighborhood is rather expansive. The Church Self-Study Form lists 35 churches of all denominations in the arbitrarily assigned parish area. These churches range all the way from other Episcopal churches to those of the "store front" variety. It should be mentioned that there is a larger than average concentration of Eastern Orthodox churches in the area. The denomination having the largest number of churches in the area could be called the Baptist Church, but it should be recognized that the word Baptist in this case would be a general designation rather than the name of an organized denomination.

THE CHURCH PROGRAM

On an average Sunday morning, 200 persons, or approximately one-third of the recorded baptized membership in the Church Self-Study Form,are in church. The average for Episcopal churches in the United States is approximately 50%. Services on a Sunday mroning consist of Holy Communion at 8:00 a.m., a Family Service at 10:00 a.m. and Morning Prayer at 11:00 a.m. The 11:00 a.m. service is Holy Communion on the first Sunday of the month.

It is interesting to see that the only weekday service listed in the Church Self-Study Form is Litany which is read on Wednesday at 7:30 p.m. This service has an average attendance of 29 persons. Considering the farily low regular attendance on Sundays, this is a startlingly high number of persons who would come out for a weekday service.

Special services during the year include Christmas Eve and Christmas Day services, Good Friday three-hour services, and Holy Communion on Wednesdays in Lent at 7:00 and 10:00 a.m.

The church school has a registration of 107 students and 20 teachers. Attendance during the past year ranged from a low of 63 to a high of 106. The church school is closely graded from nursery through the tenth grade, and in addition there is an adult class and a cradle roll. It should be pointed out that the cradle roll will add 40 persons to the total registration. Teachers are trained in monthly sessions led by the rector and it is mentioned in the Church Self-Study Form that teacher recruitment is a difficult problem. In addition, it is stated that changes in the neighborhood have brought about some problems in the church school.

In summarizing the organizations, the Church Self-Study Form discloses that a total of 171 persons, or 33.5%, participate in one or more of the organized groups in the parish. The three organizations for women listed in the Church Self-Study Form include a Missionary Chapter which meets monthly and exists

to do missionary and hospital work, and to raise money for the church. The Episcopal Churchwomen of St. Simeon's follows a more or less standard program for such a group, and the Mothers Club of the church exists to raise money and to provide a fellowship group.

There is a Senior and Junior Young People's Fellowship in the church, with Senior Fellowship meeting on Sundays at 7:00 a.m. and the Junior Fellowship on Wednesdays at 7:00 p.m. Both groups indicate that there is need of more adult interest in order to promote a more effective program.

Regarding the finances of the church, it is shown that in one full year slightly more than $26,000.00 was received from all sources, of which $17,331.00, or a little over 65%, was received in pledges. About 24% of the total receipts of the parish came from endowments and invested income. The pledged income per communicant amounted to $33.75, compared to a diocesan average of $46.61 and a national average of about $55.72. Were St. Simeon's Church able to raise its pledged income per communicant to a point between the national and the diocesan average, or approximately $50.00 per communicant, over $25,000.00 per year would be available for current expense purposes. The church does not meet its full Missionary Quota to the diocese but it has no debt.

The clergyman of the parish makes an average of 21 calls per week for all purposes, and sets aside afternoons for parish calling. While the parish has no zone or neighborhood organization, the Church Self-Study states that there are four persons who assist the rector in parish calling. This is not in terms of a formal program.

With the exception of press releases for special occasions, all the communications in the parish take place through the use of a weekly Sunday Bulletin, a mailed Monthly Magazine, and an occasional letter from the rector or from the church. The outreach of the church in the community includes the spon-

sorship of a Girl Scout Troop, and the two Young People's Groups described above. In addition, a Building and Loan Association uses the parish hall facilities.

The committee which prepared the Church Self-Study Form felt that there was a need for a full-time sexton, a curate, and a full-time Director of Religious Education. Further, it is mentioned that the third floor of the parish house should be put to use and renovated, and that the gymnasium should be renovated. Both the opportunities that face this congregation and the major problems center around the change in the neighborhood, i.e., the influx of Negroes and Spanish-speaking peoples. The program that seems most necessary on the basis of this Study is a re-thinking of the mission of the parish, given the area changes.

GENERAL DIVISION OF RESEARCH AND FIELD STUDY
Episcopal Church Center
815 Second Avenue
New York, N. Y. 10017

Date _____

CHURCH SELF-STUDY FORM

7-83

I. IDENTIFICATION

Church St. Simeon

Street 2652 N. 9th St.

City Philadelphia

County Philadelphia

Diocese Penna.

Parish or Mission Parish

State Penna.

What geographic area does this church serve?

Our people live in all five counties

II. THE CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD

A. The church is located in a section of the city which is occupied by:

Downtown commercial uses ____ Industrial uses ____ Apartment dwellings *____

Rooming houses ____ Single-home dwellings *____ A college ____ Military uses ____ Other institutions ____

B. If more than one type is checked above, please clarify:

Area is mixed and changing

C. Is the church neighborhood changing in any way? Describe:

Negro and Porto Rican influx

D. The following schools are located within the church neighborhood:

PUBLIC GRADESCHOOLS	ADDRESS
See attached	

School	Location
Adair, Alexander	Palmer & Thompson Sts.
(Annex) Chandler, Geo.	Montgomery Av. & Wildey St.
Brown, Henry A.	Sergeant & Jasper
Clymer, George C.	13th south of Cambria St.
Conwell, Russell H.	Jasper & Clearfield Sts.
Douglas, Stephen A.	Huntingdon & Edgemont
Dunbar, Paul Laurence	12th north of Columbia
Edison, Thomas A.	8th & Lehigh Av.
Elkins, Lewis	D & Clearfield St.
Elverson, James, Jr.	13th & Susquehanna Av.
Fairhill	Marshall & Somerset
Ferguson, Joseph C.	7th & Norris Sts.
(Annex) Todd, James	Franklin & Norris
Hackett, Horatio B.	York & Sepviva Sts.
Harrison, William Henry	11th & Thompson
Hartranft, John F.	7th north of York St.
Hunter, William H.	Mascher & Dauphin Sts.
Jones, John Paul	Ann & Memphis Sts.
Kensington	Amber & Cumberland Sts.
Ludlow, James R.	6th & Master Sts.
Mastbaum, Jules E.	Frankford Av.& Clementine
McKinley, William	Lawrence & Susquehanna
Miller, William F.	Howard north of Diamond St.
Moffat, John	2nd & Oxford Sts.
Muhr, Simon	12th St. & Allegheny Av.
Penn Treaty	Montgomery Av. & Thompson St.
Potter, Thomas	4th & Clearfield Sts.
(Annex) Thomas, George H.	8th & Clearfield Sts.
Richmond	Ann & Belgrade Sts.
(Annex) Carroll, Charles C	Salmon north of Cambria St.
Sheppar, Isaac A.	Howard & Cambria Sts.
Stetson, John B.	B. & Allegheny Ave.
Wanamaker, John	11th & Columbia Av.
Welsh, John	4th & Dauphin Sts.
Widener, H. Josephine	13th & Thompson Sts.
Willard, Frances E.	Emerald & Orleans Sts.
(Annex) Powers, Thomas J.	Frankford Av. & Somerset St.

PUBLIC JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS	ADDRESS
~~See attached~~	
Thomas Edison High School	8th & Lehigh Ave.

PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL NURSERY SCHOOLS	ADDRESS
~~See attached~~	
None	

PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL GRADE SCHOOLS	ADDRESS
~~See attached~~	
St. Edward's Parochial School	8th & York Sts.
St. Bonaventura Parochial "	9th & Cambria Sts.

PRIVATE OR PAROCHIAL JUNIOR AND SENIOR HIGH SCHOOLS	ADDRESS
~~See attached~~	
None	

JUNIOR COLLEGES AND COLLEGES	ADDRESS
Temple University	Broad & Berks Sts.
Dropsie College	Broad & Cumberland STs.

E. The following churches are located within the church neighborhood:

NAME OF CHURCH AND DENOMINATION	ADDRESS
CHURCHES	
Columbia Av. to Lehigh Ave. and 2nd St. to Broad St.	
Probably we Christians are too familiarized with the presence of the church to do justice to her as a world-embracing institution. (Liddon)	
Daniel Temple Baptist Church	911 Diamond St.
Temple Baptist	1849 N. Broad St.
Ebenezer Baptist	2259 N. 10th St.
King Solomon Baptist	2318 Germantown Ave.
New Bethel Baptist	7th St. & Montgomery Av.
Non-Denomination Church of Christ	2241 N. 13th St.
Truvine Baptist	521 W. Lehigh Ave.
Church of the Annunciation	2112 N. 12th St. Epis.
The Church of St. Simeon	2652 N. 9th St. Epis.
Bethel Evangelical Congregational Church	2950 N. 9th St.
Calvary Evangelical United Brethren Church	574 W. Dauphin St.
Emanuel Evangelical United Brethren Church	3007 N. 5th St.
Chapel of Four Chaplains	Broad & Berks Sts.
Advent Lutheran Church	2509 N. 5th St.
Holy Cross Lutheran Church	9th & Lehigh Av.
Eden Methodist Church	Lawrence St. & Lehigh Av.
Miller Memorial Methodist	5th St. & Clearfield Sts.
Rehoboth Church of God in Christ	2261 N. Franklin St.
Pentecostal House of Prayer	2332 N. 9th St.
Gaston Presbyterian Church	11th & Lehigh Av.
Our Lady of Mercy	Broad & Susquehanna Av.
St. Edwards	N.E.cor. 8th & York Sts.
The Salvation Army	2555 Germantown Av.
Elmwood Seventh Day Adventist Church	Susquehanna & Park Aves.
Iglesia Evangelica Bautisa Church	2717 N. Reese St. (Spanish)
St. Vladimir's Ukrainian Orthodox Church	518 W. Berks St.
Antioch United Church of Christ	11th & Huntingdon Sts.
Universalist Church Messiah	Broad & Montgomery Av.
Abyssinian Baptist Church	Marvine & Berks Sts.
Faith Tabernacle Congregation	2738 N. 2nd St.
Holy Trinity Armenian Apostotic Church	Susquehanna Av. & Marshall St.
Grace Baptist Church	1849 N. Broad St.
Morris Chapel Baptist	12th St. & Lehigh Ave.
St. Barnabas Episcopal Church	3rd & Dauphin Sts.
Cookman M. E. Church	12th St. & Lehigh Ave.
Most of our local people live to north of the church.	

III. HISTORY OF THE CONGREGATION

Please write out a short history of this congregation. How was the work started? Give the important dates and events.

The Founding of the P. E. Church of St. Simeon, Memorial to the Right Rev. Bishop William Bacon Stevens, D.D., fourth bishop of the Diocese of Penna., was the result of two previously unsuccessful efforts made by a mumber of persons in what is now North Central Philadelphia. These efforts were in 1849 and 1884, and lasted 15 years and about 20 months respectively.

In the Autumn of 1886, the Rev. William Graff, Rector of St. Jude's Free Church, established a mission in Cen. North Phila., on the 17th Sunday after Trinity, in Ernert's Hall over a stable at 12th & Somerset Sts. It was devoid of everything, even a name, being called simply "the Mission at 12th & Somerset." The Rev. Mr. Hickman took charge. Then the Rev. Mr. Edgar Cope, assistant at the church of the Incarnation accepted an invitation, and became Minister in charge on Feb. 1st, 1887.

Mr. Cope had great qualities of leadership combined with excellent business ability, and under his direction a fine church of English Decorated Gothic Style, a Parish House, the gift of a layman, and a rectory were built. The church is on Lehigh Avenue from Ninth St. to Hutchinson St. and was part of a farm. Ground was broken on Aug. 12, 1889 and the two corner stones containing appropriate contents were laid on Saturday October 12th 1889. By June 1891, a charter was granted, and the Mission became a church with Mr. Cope as its rector. Some years later he also revived the church of St. Peter in the Great Valley in Penna. Continuous growth marked St. Simeon's with numbers of appropriate gifts until, in 1910, the communicants numbered over 2000, with nearly 900 in the Sunday School with 60 teachers and several clerical assistants.

Mr. Cope's untimely death was on March 28, 1910, at the age of 51, and a largely attended memorial service was held on April 3rd, with the Rev. William Caley preaching the sermon. Later several gifts were given in Rev.

Cope's memory, including the Altar window and the rood beam and screen.

Early in 1911, Mr. George Walenta was elected rector. The church participated actively in all war efforts, including Red Cross and a Boy Scout troop. In 1915 women for the first time were invited to the Parish Dinner.

In 1922, after a successful and vigorous rectorship, Mr. Walenta's failing health forced him to resign. He was succeeded by the Rev. Mr. Charles Bratten DuBell, then rector of St. John's Church in Camden, who assumed his duties early in April 1923. All the organizations were active and in 1924 were financially sound and ambitious. The position of organist was taken by Dr. A. Oswald Michener who, at this writing in 1964, is still officiating. In Nov. 1926 an extensive dioceson Missionary Campaign, under Bishop Garland was launched to raise in 5 years a fund of $3,500,000.00 in pledges and gifts to aid missions and institutions. St. Simeon pledged more than $17,000.00, and although the total was not reached by $1,000,000, it was considered a successful effort.

Mr. DuBell was active in military affairs, having participated as a chaplain in World War 1, later becoming colonel.

In 1930, after a fire destroyed the neighboring Presbyterian church, St. Simeon accommodated its congregation in our church for more than a year, and received, after the church was rebuilt, a mark of gratitude in the form of a beautiful commemorative bronze tablet, placed on the west wall of our church. In 1933 Mr. DuBell stated that in the first 10 years of his rectorship the Parish had raised $141,345.41. During the prevailing depression, thousands of poor families received tens of thousands of garments distributed by our women under the direction of Mrs. DuBell, in the Shepherd Public School.

In 1936 our Golden Anniversary was celebrated with great eclat, attracting about 2000 former and present members. Our church participated actively in all war efforts under the leadership of Dr. DuBell, ably assisted by the

Rev. Francis Wetherill, and by a devoted Vestry and equally devoted members of both sexes.

During World War II our efforts were directed to the Red Cross Society, British War Relief Society, St. Christopher's Hospital for Children and the Galilee Mission, as well as the making of nearly 2000 garments for charitable purposes. All proper War activities were sharing our efforts.

Mr. DuBell's 50th year in the ministry was fittingly observed on Dec. 20th, 1949. On the evening of May 10th, 1950, at the Friend's Meeting House at Germantown Av. & Cambria Sts., he was given the Central Philadelphia Business men's Assn. Award for more than 26 years of devoted service to the community. On March 31, 1952, his sudden death occurred after 29 years of loving service to St. Simeon's church. Dr. F. M. Wetherill, associate rector, had been and continued giving unremitting service in all departments of work until the election of the Rev. Elof F. Johnson as the fourth rector of St. Simeon's. He resigned in 1954, and the late Rev. John W. Irwin officiated as temporary rector until the election and institution of the Rev. William P. C. Loane on Nov. 28th, 1954. He continued the activities and prosperity of the church until his resignation on July 1959, and acceptance of another rectorship.

The Rev. Dr. Henry Stuart Paynter served as substitute Rector until the Rev. Robert B. MacDonald accepted the office, effective on January 1st,1960. He is a native Philadelphian and was serving as Rector in Buffalo at the time. He furthered all organizational activities, and added the Sunday 10 A.M. family service to our program in 1961, to enable parents to accompany their children to church. The scolytes were formed into the Knights of St.John by Assistant Mr. Fred Bowles, and a Friday evening youth dance, supervised by Mrs. Violetta Hatch proved successful.

Mr. MacDonald, an expert in foreign languages, was requested by the Presiding Bishop in 1961, to represent the P. E. Church at the Old Catholic Church Conference in Haarlem, Holland, and the Pan-Orthodox Conference at Rhodes, Greece. He also received the Community Service award of the Chapel of the Four Chaplains at a special service, and gave a brief address and the Benediction at the Veterans' Day service at Independence Hall. In 1962 he went to Yugoslavia on P. E. Church business.

In 1962, Mr. John Lamb was ordained Deacon by Bishop Hart, and later Priest, preaching his first sermon in our church. The annual Bazaar proved successful financially and socially and in 1960 the St. Simeon B. & L. Association marked its 50th year of unbroken success by opening its 99th series. The Rector Emeritus, Dr. Francis M. Wetherill died on June 22, 1962, leaving a generous bequest to our endowment fund and a commemorative tablet to his memory was placed on the east wall of the church. One to the memory of Mr. DuBell had previously been placed on the South wall.

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K 4-6

IV. THE LOCAL CONGREGATION

A. Church properties:

1. Describe and give location of all land owned by the congregation, reporting the use of each parcel.

One Block - Ninth to Hutchinson - 150 ft. deep on Lehigh Av.

House 2657 N. Hutchinson St.

2. Type of church building: Frame ____ Brick ____ Stone * ____ Other _____ (type)

Describe the church building, giving number of sittings; condition of building; and improvements needed, with estimated cost:

800 sittings - condition fair - need new roof and

woodwork - est. cost $12,000.

Replacement Value $ $500,739.00 Amount of insurance carried $ Listed on K 6

3. Type of parish hall or house: Attached * ____ Separated _____;

In basement of the church _____; Frame _____ Brick _____

Stone * _____ Other _____ (type)

Describe, giving the number of rooms, the condition of the building, and improvements needed, with the estimated cost.

Three floors, top disused, Gym in basement

Est. repairs $8000

Replacement value $ 263,209.00 Amount of insurance carried $ Listed on K 6

4. Type of rectory or clergy house: Attached _____ Separated _____;

Frame _____ Brick _____ Stone * _____ Other _____
(type)

Describe, giving the number of rooms, the condition of this building, and improvements needed, with estimated cost.

12 rooms, new floors, painting, additions of a utility room $3000

Is it used as a clergy residence? yes If not, what use is made of the building?

7

Total for K 5 & 6

Replacement value: $ 50,068.00 Insurance carried: $ 527,665.00

5. Describe all other buildings owned or used by the congregation, giving (a) type of construction; (b) number of rooms; (c) condition; (d) improvements needed and estimated cost; (e) replacement value; (f) amount of insurance carried; and (g) present use.

A. 1 brick house

repairs needed -

B. 5 rooms and bath 2 stories

C. fair condition

D. Remodel shed - window frames, fence, est. cost $5000

E. $10,190.00

F. $5000.00

G. Rented

B. Membership (secure from parish records):

1. Number of church families: Total number 198

Number of individuals not in families 93

2.

Baptized membership			Communicants			Church School		
1950	1960	Now	1950	1960	Now	1950	1960	Now
1080	656	598	938	565	508	143	91	90

3.

	5 yrs. ago	4 yrs. ago	3 yrs. ago	2 yrs. ago	Last year
Number of baptized members who were removed from the parish list	32	14	16	25	24
Number of baptized members who were added to the parish list	35	47	37	25	33

4. Communicants added:

By confirmation from Episcopal families	3	9	9	11	11
By confirmation from other Churches					
By reception from other Churches	5	4	3	13	0
By baptism and confirmation from no church					
Total	8	13	12	24	11

5. Attendance:

Number of communicants who attended regularly last year	125
Number of communicants who attended occasionally	60
Number who did not attend last year, but lived in the community	32
Number of communicants who did not live in the community, but were on the parish records, not transferred	86

6. How many persons attended the last annual business meeting? 20

V. WORSHIP

A. List schedule of regular Sunday services, including church school:

TYPE OF SERVICE	HOUR	ATTENDANCE (Adults & Children)* LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH
H.C.	8	16	25	40
Family Service	10	50	75	90
M.P. (1st. Sun. H.C.)	11	60	100	130

*Use figures from Church Service Register

B. Weekday services:

TYPE OF SERVICE	DAY AND HOUR	ATTENDANCE* LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH
Litany	Wednesday 7.30 PM	25	29	32

*Use figures from the Church Service Register

C. Special services or missions held during the average year (including Lent):

Christmas Eve.	7.30 PM	50	75	100
" "	11 PM	58	150	200
Christmas Day	11 AM	30	50	60
Good Friday	12-3	100	150	200
H.C.	Wed. 7 AM	5	8	15
H.C.	Wed. 10 AM	15	25	35

D. Number and nature of services in which this congregation participates with other Episcopal congregations. State average attendance from this congregation:

Mite Box Presentation	16
Convention Service	6
Washington Birthday Corporate Communion	15
Convocation Service	6

E. What experiments or adjustments have been made in changing the hours or the format of services? Comment on results:

Family Service - added 3 yrs ago

Results - fair

F. Additional information about Sunday services:

1. Are birthdays, anniversaries, and the departed regularly remembered? yes
2. Is there a coffee or hospitality hour after any service? yes
3. Is baby care provided during any service? no

VI. CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

A. Church School

1. Registration and attendance

a. Teachers and staff 20

b. Students 107

Total 127

c. Lowest total classroom attendance during the past year 63

d. Highest total classroom attendance during the past year (except for Christmas and Easter) 106

e. Are absentee cards used? yes

f. How many months of the year is the church school in operation? 10

g. If teachers call on students in case of absence, or for other reasons, please give details.

Phone calls or visits

2. Worship schedule

CLASS OR DEPARTMENT	DAY	HOUR	DURATION	LEADER
Senior & Junior	Sunday	9:15	1¼	Rector
Nursery	"	"	"	Teacher
Kindergarden	"	"	"	Teacher

3. Instruction schedule

CLASS	REGISTRATION	AGE	SEX	DAY	HOUR	DURATION	COURSE MATERIAL
Nursery	22	3	Male &	Sun.	9:15	1½	Christian Fellowship
Kindergarden	6	5	Female	"	"	"	"
1	10	6	"	"	"	"	"
2	12	7	"	"	"	"	"
3	6	8	"	"	"	"	"
4	8	9	"	"	"	"	"
5	6	10	"	"	"	"	"
6	15	11	"	"	"	"	"
7	6	12	"	"	"	"	"
8	6	13	"	"	"	"	"
9	6	14	"	"	"	"	"
10	10	15	"	"	"	"	"
Adult	14	21	"	"	"	"	"
Cradle Roll	40	1	"	"	"	"	"
Cradle Roll registration							
not inc. in S/S Accounting							
nor the total below							
of 127							

4. List the teaching aids used, including audio-visual material.

Felt Boards, 16 M.M. Sound Movies Plus work sheets

5. Describe the program for pre-school children.

Cradle Roll, Nursery and Kindergarden

6. Data on the teaching staff

a. How are teachers recruited? By Pleading

b. Describe the way in which teachers are trained, giving the number of sessions, the leaders, etc.

Wednesday night sessions - monthly meetings - by the Rector

c. How are teachers assisted in the performance of their duties?

By the Rector or the Lay-superintendent

d. Summary of teachers' backgrounds

AGE	Number	EDUCATION	Number	YEARS TEACHING	Number
19 years or less	2	Grade school	3	one	2
20 to 29	1	Junior high	3	two	2
30 to 39	2	Senior high	7	three	1
40 to 49	6	1 to 3 years College	-	four	-
50 years or more	3	College grad.	1	five	1
		Graduate study	1	6 to 10	2
Male	5			11 to 20	2
Female	9	K-12		20 and over	5

7. What problems does the church school have? usual

Routine problems attendent to S/S in a changing envirnmental neighborhood

B. Vacation Church School

1. When is it held? Never

2. For how long each day? -

3. What type of courses are taught? -

4. How many children attend, usually? _____

5. How many of these children are regular pupils of this congregation's church school? _____

6. How many teachers are there? _____

C. Released Time Program

1. When are classes held? Never

2. What type of courses are taught? _____

3. How many of this congregation's children attend? _____

4. What is the relationship of the teachers to this congregation?

5. What is the relationship of the Released Time classes to t Christian education program of this congregation?

D. Day School: If the congregation has a day school, please fill out the Parochial School Report Form and submit it with this report.

No Day School

E. Confirmation Instruction

1. Children

a. What is the usual age of confirmation? 12 b. How many instruction sessions are held? 7 c. How long is each session? 1 hr. d. Who is the instructor? Rector e. What material is used? Haggerston

f. What is the relationship of the confirmation class material to the regular church school curriculum? Children required 1 year S.S.

2. Adults

a. How many sessions are held? as needed b. How long is each session? varies c. Who is the instructor? Rector d. What material is used? no demand

F. Adult Education

1. List the general adult education program in the congregation, including Bible classes, parents' classes, discussion groups, etc.

NAME OF GROUP	NUMBER OF MEMBERS	NUMBER OF MEETINGS	LENGTH OF MEETINGS	INSTRUCTOR
Discussion	10	30	2 hrs.	Rector

2. What Retreats, missions, Quiet Days, etc., have the members participated in during the last two years? Estimate the total number of participants.

Men's Quiet Day - 14

3. What leader- and participant-training programs have been held in the last two years, such as the Indiana Plan, Parish Life Conferences, Missions, and Institutes? Estimate the total number of participants.

Diocesan Teacher Training Program - 12 Participants

G. How can the Christian education program of this congregation be strengthened?

By employing a Director of Religious Education full time.

VII. SUMMARY OF ORGANIZATIONS - Include, where applicable, vestry or bishop's committee, parish council, choirs, guilds, circles, ushers, acolytes (for men as well as boys), college work, etc.

A. For Women

1. Give the total number of adult women in the congregation. 150

2. Give the number of organizations for adult women. 3

3. Give the total active membership of all these organizations. 60

B. For Men

1. Give the total number of adult men in the congregation. 50

2. Give the number of organizations for adult men. One

3. Give the total membership of all these organizations. 9

C. For Men and Women

1. Give the number of organizations for men and women. 2

2. Give the total active membership of all these organizations. 35

D. For Girls in:	grade school	junior high	high school
1. Total number of girls	12	15	*
2. Number of organizations	1	1	*
3. Total active membership	10	12	*

E. For Boys in:	grade school	junior high	high school
1. Total number of boys	*	7	*
2. Number of organizations	1	1	*
3. Total active membership	*	7	*

F. For Youth in:	grade school	junior high	high school
1. Number of organizations	1	1	1
2. Total active membership	12	7	9

N.B. Please make a separate report for each individual organization, using the format on the following pages.

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name The Millionary Chapter of St. Simeon's Church

Total active members 25 Average attendance at meetings 20-24

Number of meetings each month One Day and time of meetings 11-4 PM

B. Why does this organization exist?

Missionary and Hospital Work - also Bazaar Work

(St. Christopher's Hospital)

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn?

Women of the Church and also outside denominations.

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

NONE

E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

Helping with projects of the Episcopal Churchwomen

Have had many trips in the past to raise money for Easter,

Christmas and other offerings.

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

Lack of good machines

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness?

Signed by: Mrs. C. Howard Butler Title: President of The Missionary Chapter

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name The Episcopal Churchwomen of the Church of St. Simeon

Total active members 20 Average attendance at meetings 14

Number of meetings each month 1 Day and time of meetings 3rd Sun. 12.15 N

B. Why does this organization exist?

To interest the women in the work of the Church, the Diocese and the Parish. To encourage more regular attendance at services and to take a more active part in Parish work.

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn?

The Women of the Parish

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

Our meetings are opened with prayer. Literature from the Church is read and discussed. Financial aid is given where possible.

E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

Social activities such as trips to other cities and historical churches and places of interest. Our fund raising activities are usually very interesting and enjoyable.

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

To interest the women in our Parish and to take a more active part in the work of the church.

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness?

To increase the attendance and acquire new members.

Signed by: Ethel M. Wilson Title: Secretary-Treacurer

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name Mothers' Club of St. Simeon

Total active members 24 Average attendance at meetings 15

Number of meetings each month One Day and time of meetings 4th Mon. 8 PM

B. Why does this organization exist?

To raise money offerings for the church and promote sociability among women of St. Simeon's church.

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn?

Members of the church.

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

Meetings are opened with prayer

E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

Too few members

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness?

Attract more active members to join organization

Signed by: Florence W. Thorp Title: Treasurer of Mothers' Club

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name Young Peoples' Fellowship

Total active members 10 Average attendance at meetings 6

Number of meetings each month 4 Day and time of meetings Sun.7 PM

B. Why does this organization exist?

Exists for recreation, worship and service

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn?

Teen Age Group

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

Worship formal and informal. Education through study projects.

E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

Recreational and contacting similar, outside groups.

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

Opportunity is missionary in the locality.

Problem is lack of local interest.

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness?

For greater effectiveness, more interest on the part of individual adults is necessary.

Signed by: _____ Title: _____

VIII. REPORT FOR INDIVIDUAL ORGANIZATION

A. Name Junior Young People

Total active members 20 Average attendance at meetings 15

Number of meetings each month 4 Day and time of meetings Wed.7 PM

B. Why does this organization exist?

Recreation and training

C. From what group in the congregation are the members drawn?

Sub Teens

D. Describe the worship and the educational program.

Worship in special Services. Education in training projects.

E. Describe the other activities of the organization.

Other program is recreational

F. What are the major opportunities and problems of this organization?

Opportunity for growth in locality.

Problem is lack of adult interest.

G. What can be done for greater effectiveness?

With more adult interest from parishoners, entire program could expand.

Signed by: _____ Title: _____

IX. CLERGY OR LAY READERS IN CHARGE SINCE 1930

NAME	APPROX. AGE AT START OF MINISTRY HERE	PERIOD OF TENURE	MOVED TO:
DuBell	54	27	Died
Johnson	42	1½	Ithan
Loane	49	5	Upper Merion
Mac Donald	43	4 yrs.	- - -

A. Does the present minister live in the neighborhood? Yes

Does he give full time to this church? Yes If not, what other church(es) does he serve, or what other work does he do?

Joint Commission on Co-operation with the Eastern Churches

B. How many people from this parish have gone into full time work for the church within the past ten years, or are now studying for such work? _____ Please give details.

John Lamb

C. Leighton Erb

C. How many licensed lay readers serve the congregation now? 5

Do any lay readers from this congregation serve other congregations? No

If so, which congregations? _____

X. FINANCE

A. Income (Last Full Year): (1) Pledges $ 17,331.46 (2) Plate offerings $ 552.34 (3) Parish or mission organizations $ 2064.32 (4) Endowments $ 2759.51 (5) Special fund drives $ _____ (6) Other (Income from investments) $ 3526.61

B. Disbursements

	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	Last Full Year
Total current expenses	9408.67	8811.86	11321.21	16868.34	18881.91	18217.91
Diocesan Assessment	482.22	700.00	900.00	416.24	447.92	564.92
Missionary Disbursements	675.48	250.00	450.00	1000.00	1718.55	1780.86
Special parish expense	1637.53	1578.33	3418.57	4490.98	3645.80	2103.10
Clergy salary or salaries: from congregation a)	2758.00	2800.00	3000.00	5250688	6562.30	6460.51
b)						
from other sources a)						
b)						

Rental value of the rectory $ 1580.00 per annum

Is the church in debt? No Amount of debt $ * Method of repayment *

Finance (cont'd)

7. Is a thorough Every Member Canvass conducted each year? Yes

If yes, by mail or personal solicitation? Both Describe the training of the canvassers. Advised by National Council

8. What other means of fund raising or stewardship education are used?

Special collections - Easter etc. - Bazaars - Dinners and Bus trips.

9. If this is a mission or aided parish, what is the potential for self-support? Is self supported

10. Additional comments or information on finances:

C. Travel:

1. Does the priest have a car? Yes

2. By whom is the car purchased? Priest * ____ Congregation ____ Diocese ____

3. How much is the annual operating expense of the car, omitting depreciation? $not known 4. By whom is the operating expense paid? Rector and Parish

5. How much does the local congregation pay? $240.00 yearly

6. Average number of miles traveled per month on church business 600/700

XI. CHRISTIAN EVANGELISM AND VISITATION

A. Clergy pastoral calling during the past year by rector or vicar:*

TYPE OF CALL	NUMBER OF CALLS PER WEEK LOW	AVERAGE	HIGH
1. Family or routine parish	5	12	20
2. Sick or emergency	0	7	14
3. Calls for other purposes	0	2	8

4. Time set aside for pastoral calling:

Afternoons

5. How do the clergy organize their parish calling? By areas

6. How do the clergy organize their calling on the unchurched and newcomers?

As needed

7. Time spent in pastoral counseling (average hours per week) 2 hrs.

* Please give similar information, separately, for other clergy.

B. Lay calling:

1. Describe the Zone or Neighborhood Organization.

None

2. Describe the program of lay pastoral visitation, including the number of participants and the time spent.

4 participants as needed

3. Describe the program of lay evangelism (including the congregation's approach to newcomers and to the unchurched), giving the number of participants and the amount of time. _____

No worked out program

4. How are newcomers integrated into the life of this congregation?

Through welcome to services and invitations

to join organisations.

5. Describe any religious census of the area made by the congregation itself or with other churches during the last ten years.

None

XII. COMMUNICATIONS

A. What use is made of the press? Releases on special occasions

B. What use is made of radio and/or television? None

C. What use is made of the U.S. Mail? All our communications

D. Describe the regular publications which are mailed or distributed, including Sunday bulletins, parish newsletters, etc. _____

Weekly Bulletin

Monthly Magazine

Occasional letter

E. How many church road signs are there? One

XIII. NEIGHBORHOOD OR COMMUNITY

A. Is this congregation community-minded? Yes and No

B. Describe the clergy participation in community affairs.

Ministerium and Community Council

C. Describe the participation of the congregation in community affairs.

Little

D. Describe the general parish program for the community (including such church-sponsored programs as Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, etc.):

Girl Scouts

Young People

Jr. Young People

E. List community organizations using the parish hall and its facilities:

Girl Scouts

Building & Long Assn.

F. Describe the way in which the congregation cooperates with other religious bodies:

Joint Services on occasion locally

Facilities open to Eastern Churches.

XIV. PARTICIPATION IN DIOCESAN AND NATIONAL CHURCH PROGRAMS:

A. What offices do the clergy hold in the diocese, missionary district, or National Church? Joint Communions on cooperation with Eastern Churches Diocesan Committee on Ecumenical Relations.

B. What offices do the lay people hold in the diocese, missionary district, or National Church? None

C. What diocesan or National Church programs have directly benefited this congregation? None

D. Describe the men's participation in diocesan programs: Convocation

E. Describe the women's participation in diocesan programs: U. T. O. Financial

F. Describe youth participation in diocesan programs: Summer Conferences

G. Does this congregation pay its full Missionary Share or Quota? No

H. What percent of the congregation's budget does for missionary work? 4.27

XV. STAFF

A. List all paid personnel working for this congregation, giving title, function, and salary, and telling whether full or part-time.

Rev. Robert B. MacDonald	Rector
Dr. A. O. Michener	Organist
Mr. Howard R. Henzel	Parish Secretary
Mr. Kelton Norman	Sexton
Mrs. Eleanor Brown	Cleaning
Mr. William Earle	Bell Ringer

B. Describe the use of volunteer personnel by this congregation.

The Rev. Issac Nona, Deacon, Church of the East and the Assyrians, used as part time assistant

Mrs. Stella Hahn, Girl Scout Leader

Mrs. Hatch - Jr. Y.P.

XVI. FUTURE POLICY, PROGRAM, AND BUDGET

A. In adopting a policy for an expanded program for this congregation, in order to vitalize its Christian witness to the community; to extend its outreach of Christian fellowship to all the unchurched; to increase initiative and responsibility for all members of the congregation; ~~to develop local financial resources with a view towards self support and parochial status (if not already attained)~~; and to further other essential advances, what are the immediate needs as to:

1. Personnel: Full time Sexton

   Full time Curate

   Full time Director of Education

2. Buildings: Renovation of 3rd floor (Parish House)

   " " Gym

3. Equipment: Full equipment for above

B. What are the major opportunities that face this congregation?

Interesting challenge in degenerating neighborhood

C. What are the major problems that face this congregation?

Loss of membership due to changing neighborhood

D. What program needs seem evident on the basis of this Study?

This will come from a full or complete rethinking of the mission of this Parish

E. What would be the approximate capital cost to meet these needs?

$20,000.00

F. What would be the annual operating budget to maintain the program?

$50,000.00

G. What steps are now being taken locally to meet these needs and opportunities?

Consultation with local churches

H. What steps are now being taken by the diocese or district, or might be taken, to assist in meeting these needs and opportunities?

none

I. Further data or comment on the general needs and problems of this congregation:

Area altering due to city redevelopment -

Need is stabilization.

The data in this report were furnished by the following committee:

NAME	OCCUPATION	NUMBER OF YEARS IN PARISH
Rev. Robert B. MacDonald	Rector	5 years
Mr. Howard R. Henzel	Parish Sec.	55 years
Mr. Charles R. Bachman	Retired	65 years
Mrs. Joan Modes	Housewife	5 years
Mr. C. Howard Butler	Retired	48 years

Date completed: _____

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REPORTED MEMBERSHIP FROM MAPS

The membership maps submitted by the Local Study Group locate 564 persons in a considerable area in and around the City of Philadelphia. The largest concentration of the membership is in Census Tract 43-E which is immediately north of the church, and the second largest concentration is in Census Tract 19-B which is the tract in which the church is located. It is interesting to discover that while 27.5% of the total membership is in Census Tract 43-E, the second largest concentration includes only 5.6% of the parish membership, and all other tracts have even smaller percentages. The church would necessarily be classified as a metropolitan rather than a neighborhood church on the basis of these statistics. The table on the following page gives the complete distribution of the parish's membership by census tracts.

MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION TABLE

PARISH PHILADELPHIA ST SIMEONS

CENSUS TRACT OR AREA	NUMBER OF MAPPED MEMBERS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL MAPPED MEMBERSHIP
B 1	2	4
B 14B	1	2
B 19	1	2
B 19	1	2
C 4	3	5
C 24	4	7
D 78B	1	2
D 31B	1	2
D 39	4	7
M 15	2	4
M 16A	4	7
M 16B	2	4
M 18	5	8
M 24B	1	2
M 54	3	5
M 3D	1	2
M 4	6	10
M 5	2	4
M 9A	1	2
M 20	2	4
M 21	1	2
M 41A	1	2
19A	11	19
19B	32	56
19C	2	4
19D	3	5
19E	8	14
21K	2	4
21Q	1	2
21R	1	2
21U	3	5
22B	1	2
22H	1	2
23D	4	7
23G	3	5
23H	6	10
23I	3	5
23J	4	7
25B	2	4
26E	1	2
27B	1	2
27C	2	4
28A	1	2
28B	1	2
31A	4	7
31B	1	2
32D	2	4
33B	3	5
33C	3	5
33G	10	17
33H	4	7
33I	3	5
33J	28	48
35A	3	5
35B	2	4

MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION TABLE

PARISH

CENSUS TRACT OR AREA	NUMBER OF MAPPED MEMBERS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL MAPPED MEMBERSHIP
35C	3	5
35F	4	7
37A	4	7
37B	22	37
37F	6	10
38E	1	2
38F	1	2
38G	2	4
38I	1	2
41A	1	2
41H	2	4
41J	8	14
41L	2	4
42A	7	12
42B	2	4
42C	4	7
42E	12	20
42F	2	4
42I	2	4
43A	17	30
43C	4	7
43D	7	12
X 43E	157	275
43F	3	5
45A	15	26
45H	1	2
49B	1	2
49D	10	17
49F	5	8
49H	1	2
50D	1	2
50E	2	4
50F	1	2
50M	2	4
50O	2	4
50P	2	4
55A	2	4
55B	1	2
56H	1	2
56I	1	2
56K	2	4
57A	5	8
57E	3	5
57F	2	4
57H	1	2
58K	1	2
58L	4	7
59A	1	2
59B	3	5
59D	1	2
59E	1	2
59F	2	4
59G	2	4
59I	2	4
59Q	2	4

MEMBERSHIP DISTRIBUTION TABLE

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PARISH

CENSUS TRACT OR AREA	NUMBER OF MAPPED MEMBERS	PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL MAPPED MEMBERSHIP
OUT STATE	6	1.1
	565	100.0

REPORTED MEMBERSHIP AND FINANCIAL DATA FROM JOURNALS

Between 1950 and 1960, the population of Philadelphia declined by 3.3%. During this same period, the baptized membership of St. Simeon's Church declined by 38.5%. The following table gives the percentage changes in membership status for selected time periods:

MEMBERSHIP STATUS	% CHANGE 1950-60	1955-60	1960-63
Baptized Members	-38.5	- 1.0	1.2
Communicants	-42.7	- 2.6	-1.4
Church School	-43.2	-30.5	21.8

While the church has suffered considerable decline in membership over several years, there are signs that this decline may be stemmed to some degree. The general improvement in the church school percentages may be short-lived, although the number of baptisms in the parish is well above the average as will be shown in a section further along in this report.

The comparative statistics for Episcopal churches in Lower North Philadelphia are as follows:

MEMBERSHIP STATUS	% CHANGE 1950-60	1955-60	1960-63
Baptized Members	- 1.5	1.6	- 4.9
Communicants	- 5.6	- 3.4	-14.4
Church School	-12.2	-24.6	- 3.8

The Episcopal churches in the City of Philadelphia had a statistical picture as follows:

MEMBERSHIP STATUS	% CHANGE 1950-60	1955-60	1060-63
Baptized Members	- 4.8	-5.7	-7.7
Communicants	-11.3	-9.0	-3.5
Church School	1.3	-3.8	-6.6

In the Diocese of Pennsylvania, the percentage changes in membership status were as follows:

MEMBERSHIP STATUS	% CHANGE 1950-60	1955-60	1960-63
Baptized Members	19.9	5.4	-2.1
Communicants	11.4	3.8	1.5
Church School	41.8	17.7	-3.8

Between 1961 and 1963, inclusive, St. Simeon's Church had 101 baptisms and 31 confirmations. The average ratio of baptisms to the communicant strength was 6.1% and the average ratio of confirmations to the communicant strength was 1.9%. Episcopal churches in Lower North Philadelphia had percentage ratios of 5.4% and 3.5% respectively, and in the City of Philadelphia these ratios were 3.5% and 3.4% respectively. In the Diocese of Pennsylvania, the comparative ratios were 3.9% and 4.1% in each of the categories. It is generally considered necessary to have ratios of 5.0% to maintain the level of the church's membership, and percentages higher than 5% in both categories in order to insure a long-term church growth. The rather high percentage of baptisms might possibly be a good indicator for the future, if it can provide candidates for future confirmations and communicant membership for the church.

Between 1961 and 1963, inclusive, St. Simeon's Church had total reported expenditures of $72,368.00, of which $6,343.00, or, 8.8%, went for purposes outside of the parish. This ratio was slightly higher than the ratio for Episcopal churches in Lower North Philadelphia which was 7.5%. In the City of Philadelphia this ratio was 11.3%, and in the Diocese of Pennsylvania the ratio was 14.2%. The expenditures per communicant per year in this three-year period averaged $43.89 for communicants of St. Simeon's Church, of which $3.85 went for purposes outside of the parish.

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For Episcopal churches in Lower North Philadelphia these figures were $56.16 and $4.20, respectively, and in the City of Philadelphia the comparable figures were $88.66 and $10.02, respectively. In the Diocese of Pennsylvania, the average yearly expenditures per communicant amounted to $73.71, of which $10.45 went for purposes outside of the parish.

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VITAL STATISTICS

PARISH ST. SIMEON TOWN PHILADELPHIA

COUNTY PHILADELPHIA DIOCESE PENNSYLVANIA

	1940	1945	1950	1955	1960	1961	1962	1963
Baptized Members	2,069	958	963	598	592	587	593	* 544
Communicants	1,219	958	963	567	552	554	551	544
Church School	397	336	259	210	147	182	187	179
Baptisms	63	86	84	52	48	37	31	33
Percentage of Communicants	5.2	9.0	8.7	9.2	8.7	6.7	5.6	6.1
Confirmations	28	18	27	47	3	9	11	11
Percentage of Communicants	2.3	1.9	2.8	8.3	0.5	1.6	2.0	2.0
Parochial Expenditures 1	9,891	9,512	4,589	16,609	21,078	20,319	19.866	18.217
Special Par. Expenditures 2	1,683	1,824	1,346	6,246	20,262	3,646	1874	2103
Extra-parochial Expenditures 3	875	250	1,142	1,227	1,577	1,719	2844	1780
Total Reported Expenditures	12,449	11,586	7,077	24,082	42,917	25,684	24,584	22,100
Expenditures per Communicant	10.21	12.09	7.35	42.47	77.75	46.36	44.62	40.63
Extra-parochial Expenditures per Communicant	0.71	0.26	1.19	2.16	2.86	3.10	5.16	3.27

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* GDRFS ESTIMATE

1 Includes clergy salary, current expense, pension premium, and Diocesan assessment.

2 Special parish purposes, including capital expenditures.

3 Includes Church's Program, special outside.

DATA ON THE CONGREGATION

It is unfortunate that St. Simeon's Church was not able to submit a large enough percentage of its baptized membership so that a statistical analysis of the composition of the congregation could be made. The limited data available indicate that a rather substantial proportion of the membership is over 50 years of age, and that there are quite low percentages in the young adult age groupings. While the proportion of the congregation between five and 15 years of age is not too disparate, the number under five years of age is so small that it is a warning that substantial losses may be coming in the future.

In reporting on their occupations, the largest category among the gainfully employed was that of skilled workers. The second largest category was clerical workers and this was followed by professional people. While the actual number of persons reporting is a small percentage, an unusually large number of those reporting were retired.

Of the 207 persons reporting on their length of membership in this congregation, about 40% have been members for more than 30 years. It is interesting to observe that nearly 40% have been members for less than 10 years. The parish seems to contain high proportions of its membership in long-time members and new members, with small numbers in the in-between categories.

A total of 25 persons in Episcopal families belong to other churches, and 15 persons reporting had a previous affiliation in another church. Slightly over two-fifths of the non-members were Roman Catholics, and about the same proportion had a former affiliation with the Roman Catholic Church.

Of 203 persons reporting on their ethnic or racial background, about three-quarters have an Anglo-Saxon heritage. It should be pointed out that in an area that has a large Negro population and the heaviest Spanish-speaking population in the city, there are none listed in the Episcopal Census.

Of 205 persons reporting on their educational background, slightly under 50% report a high school education. This level is considerably higher than what is found in the community as a whole.

In reporting on distance and time that people take in getting to church, 68 out of 150 families live within a mile of the church and 45 live four or more miles away. Approximately one-half of those families reporting can get to church in less than 20 minutes, but about one-third of the number reporting take 30 or more minutes in getting to and from the church.

Of 152 families who report on their type of residence, 116 live in single-family houses and 25 live in apartment houses. Of 112 families reporting on the age of their residence, 79 live in houses built before 1920 and of this number, 34 were built before the turn of the century.

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DISCUSSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

ST. SIMEON'S CHURCH, Philadelphia, Pennsylvania

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St. Simeon's Church occupies an excellent and extremely visible location on one of the main streets in Philadelphia. It is also evident that the area in which the church is located is undergoing considerable change. That is indicated also in the membership distribution of the church, for it is clearly shown that large numbers of the congregation now live at some distance from the church. Only in the census tract immediately to the north of the church is there a sizeable proportion of the parish membership, and that proportion is only 27.5%.

It appears that if the church is to survive it must minister to, and be relevant to, the area in which it is located. The length of time that a church can serve a constituency rather than a neighborhood is usually limited to two generations at most. The faithfulness of the membership living at some distance is to be commended, but families tend to re-settle in terms of their church after the second generation.

The Church Self-Study Form reported a desire for a Director of Religious Education, a sexton, and a curate. There is no question that with the extensive buildings and grounds of this parish, a full-time sexton is a necessity. It is recommended that such a sexton be secured as soon as possible.

A Director of Religious Education and a curate are different matters. One must take into consideration the total needs of this parish and its mission today.

Also, the budget of the parish has to be considered. As was pointed out above, the church must minister to its neighborhood if it intends to survive. Therefore, it is recommended that St. Simeon's undertake a study of its program needs in total, to see just what personnel is needed to execute this program. What would be the extent of the neighborhood work? What would be the task of a Director of Religious Education? How would an assistant clergyman be used in this church? Is there an alternative to the traditional patterns of the ministry that might be considered?

It is this alternative that will be discussed here. It is suggested that the parish add to the staff a person whose work would be in the neighborhood ministry. This need not necessarily be a priest, although such persons are available in rare instances. The Church Army has a limited number of men who are available for such assignments. If such a person were appointed, his role should be clearly defined in a job description spelled out prior to his coming. It would be wise if a clear division of the responsibilities between the rector and such other persons as may come to the ministering staff, were set forth. While these persons would, no doubt, work closely in the total program, each would bring to the task individual skills that should make for clearly defined roles.

It is evident in the Self-Study Form that there is a need for adult Christian education in this parish. The present leadership is well qualified to direct such a program. For the purposes of planning, however, it is felt that that a Christian Education Committee should be appointed. Many adult Christian education programs fail because they are not relevant to the everyday needs

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of the members of the parish. With such a committee, it would be possible to plan a relevant program. It is further suggested that whatever is offered be offered on a unit basis. Units should run from six to ten weeks, with a clearly defined scope for each unit.

It was noted in the body of this Church Self-Study Form that the level of giving per communicant is considerably below the national and diocesan averages. Were it possible for St. Simeon's Church to raise its level of giving per communicant to the national level, it would, in pledged giving alone, equal the total income that it has today from all sources. It is therefore recommended that this parish undertake a stewardship education program. This stewardship education program should include an intensive Every Member Canvass every year, with adequate preparation of the canvassers prior to their making calls. It is possible to receive aid from diocesan sources in planning a stewardship education program. Since the church has no debt, there is much evidence that the effectiveness of this church could be improved if it had adequate financing for its program.